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DEPARTMENTS.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.

ARITHMETIC.

131. Proposed by M. A. GRUBER. A. M., War Department, Washington, D. C.

A right frustum of a cone whose radii of the bases are r and s , $r > s$, is to be divided into n parts of equal volume by sections parallel to the bases. What are the altitudes of the respective parts?

Solution by the PROPOSER.

Let $BCED$ = section of given frustum through the centers of the bases.

Produce DB and EC until they meet in A ; and draw AG perpendicular to DE . Then AF and AG = the respective altitudes of cones ABC and ADE ; FG = altitude of given frustum; DG = r , and BF = s .

Draw HK parallel to DE so that the frustum with altitude FL is m/n part of the entire frustum.

Put $a = FG$; and let $x = AF$, $y_m = AL$, and $z_m = HL$.

The similar triangles ABF and ADG give $x : x + a = s : r$; or $x : a = s : r - s$.

$$\therefore x = \frac{as}{r-s}, \text{ and } x + a = \frac{ar}{r-s}.$$

$$\therefore \frac{\pi ar^3}{3(r-s)} = \text{volume of cone } ADE; \quad \frac{\pi as^3}{3(r-s)} = \text{volume of cone } ABC;$$

$$\frac{1}{3}\pi a(r^2 + s^2 + rs) = \text{volume of given frustum } BCED;$$

$$\frac{\pi am(r^2 + s^2 + rs)}{3n} = \text{volume of frustum } BCKH;$$

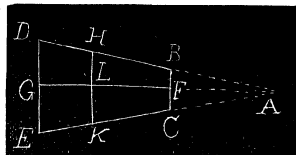
$$\text{and } \frac{\pi a[mr^3 + (n-m)s^3]}{3n(r-s)} = \text{volume of cone } AHK = \text{cone } ABC + \text{frustum } BCKH.$$

From the similar volumes, cones ADE and AHK , we have

$$\frac{\pi ar^3}{3(r-s)} : \frac{\pi a[mr^3 + (n-m)s^3]}{3n(r-s)} = \left(\frac{ar}{r-s}\right)^3 : y_m^3.$$

$$\therefore y_m = \frac{a}{n(r-s)} \sqrt[3]{n^2[mr^3 + (n-m)s^3]}.$$

$$\text{and } y_{m+1} = \frac{a}{n(r-s)} \sqrt[3]{n^2[(m+1)r^3 + (n-m-1)s^3]}.$$



$$\therefore y_{m+1} - y_m = \frac{a}{n(r-s)} \{ \sqrt[n]{n^2[(m+1)^3 r^2 + (n-m-1)s^3]} - \sqrt[n]{n^2[mr^3 + (n-m)s^3]} \},$$

which is the general value for the respective altitudes of the n equal parts of the given frustum.

The limits of m are zero and n .

$$y_0 = x = \frac{as}{r-s}, \text{ and } y_n = x + a = \frac{ar}{r-s}.$$

Hence as the altitudes of the equal parts diminish from s to r , $y_1 - y_0 =$ the greatest altitude and $y_n - y_{n-1} =$ the least altitude.

The radius of the m th section is $z_m = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt[n]{n^2[mr^3 + (n-m)s^3]}.$

Put $a=12$, $r=3$, $s=2$, and $n=4$.

Then $y_{m+1} - y_m = 6\{ \sqrt[4]{2(19m+51)} - \sqrt[4]{2(19m+32)} \}.$

Whence $y_1 - y_0 = 6[\sqrt[4]{102} - 4] = 4.034$; $y_2 - y_1 = 6[\sqrt[4]{140} - \sqrt[4]{102}] = 3.121$; $y_3 - y_2 = 6[\sqrt[4]{178} - \sqrt[4]{140}] = 2.596$; and $y_4 - y_3 = 6[6 - \sqrt[4]{178}] = 2.249$.

Also $z_1 = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt[4]{102} = 2.336$; $z_2 = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt[4]{140} = 2.596$; and $z_3 = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt[4]{178} = 2.812$.

Also solved in a very excellent manner by *G. B. M. ZERR*, and *J. SCHEFFER*.

ALGEBRA.

107. Proposed by *CHARLES E. MYERS*, Canton, Ohio.

Given $xyz=18 \dots (1)$; $x^2+y^2+z^2=33 \dots (2)$; and $(x^2-yz)^3+(y^2-xz)^3+(z^2-xy)^3-3(x^2-yz)(y^2-xz)(z^2-xy)=6561 \dots (3)$; to find x , y , and z .

I. Solution by *M. A. GRUBER*, A. M., War Department, Washington, D. C.

Expanding, uniting terms, and extracting square root of [3], we have

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz = 81 \dots [4].$$

Substituting $xyz=18$, and transposing, [4] becomes

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = 135 \dots [5].$$

Put $y=x+v$, and $z=x-v$.

Then, [1] becomes $x^3 - xv^2 = 18 \dots [6]$,

[2] becomes $3x^2 + 2v^2 = 33 \dots [7]$,

and [5] becomes $3x^3 + 6xv^2 = 135 \dots [8]$.

From [6] and [8], we readily find $x=3$. Whence $v=\pm 1/3$.

$\therefore x=3$, $y=3 \pm 1/3$, and $z=\mp 1/3$.